

## **Oregon Scenic Bikeway Plan**



### **Sherar's Falls Scenic Bikeway**

**January 6, 2017**

## Bikeway Proponent Group Information

### Lead Proponent

<i>Name: Susie Miles</i>	<i>Phone: 541-993-0055</i>
<i>Title:</i>	<i>Email: susie@deschutesriver.com</i>
<i>Organizational Affiliation: Imperial River Company (owner/marketing coordinator/event planner), Maupin Area Chamber of Commerce (volunteer)</i>	

### Other Proponent Group Members

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Name	Organizational Affiliation/ Title	Email/ Phone
Allison Bechtol	Maupin Area Chamber of Commerce/President, Maupin Market/Owner	shop@maupinmarket.com/541-993-0648
Cristie Amaral	Maupin Area Chamber of Commerce/Coordinator	cristiea@maupinoregon.com/541-993-9900
Lynn Ewing	City of Maupin/Mayor	maupinmayor@gmail.com 541-395-2698
Denis Carlsen	Volunteer	denis.carlsen@gmail.com/503-939-8788
Steve Kramer	Wasco County Commissioner	stevek@co.wasco.or.us/ 541-993-2051
Rob Miles	Maupin Area Chamber of Commerce/Vice-President, Imperial River Company/Owner	rob@deschutesriver.com/ 541-993-3955
Mike Olson	Volunteer	fgbiker@groveweb.net/ 503-701-2288
Sue Knapp	Maupin City Councilor	sue.marie.knapp@gmail.com/ 503-302-4489
Mike Davis	Volunteer	503-680-6384/ irldavis@gmail.com



Name	Organizational Affiliation/ Title	Email/ Phone

### Key Proponent Responsibilities

Proponent Member Name*	Task/Responsibility
Susie Miles	<b>Convener.</b> Periodically convene key volunteers and supporting organizations to coordinate promotion and improvement of the bikeway.
Denis Carlsen, Mike Olson, Rob Miles	<b>Signs Coordinator.</b> Monitor bikeway directional signs and report missing or down signs to the appropriate road jurisdiction. Work with the OPRD Bicycle Coordinator as necessary to obtain replacement signs.
Cristie Amaral	<b>Social Media Coordinator.</b> Post information and updates about the bikeway to the RideOregonRide website. Advise the State Parks and Recreation Department Bicycle Coordinator of route closures and other significant events affecting use of the bikeway.
Allison Bechtol	<b>Bicycle Friendly Business Recruiter.</b> Coordinate identification of members of the local business community who can provide services to bikeway users and assist them in improving and expanding their services.
Susie Miles	<b>Local Government Liaison.</b> Maintain contact with each affected road jurisdiction to ensure their continued support of the Scenic Bikeway.

\* Contact information for proponent group members listed here is provided above.

### Bikeway Description

300 words or less

The Sherar's Fall Scenic Bikeway is a combination of everything that makes North Central Oregon unique. This 33 mile loop climbs out of river canyons, descends down to waterfalls, rolls amiably through farming land and along riverbanks. Through stunning views of Mt. Hood, wild & scenic rivers, waterfalls and Oregon agriculture, a variety of High Desert animals play and frolic. Balsamroot, lupine and columnar basalt look upward, toward the always shining sun. Welcome to the High Desert!

The Cascade Mountains do their part to make this ride one-of-a-kind. They hold back the clouds on the west side, allowing few to escape up and over to the east side. This means an annual rainfall of 6" and 300 days of sunshine. Deer, antelope, otter, trout, elk can be seen

frolicking year round in the incredible weather. This High Desert landscape has much to see even in winter during its mild temperatures, occasional wind and scarce traces of snow. Towering spires of basalt, gnarled juniper trees, ancient sage brush, fields of winter wheat and fresh scents of it all combined.

The bikeway loop straddles old history and new adventure. It weaves in and out of working ranches public lands. The route provides Century Old Farms, former mill towns newly turned to adventure, ancient grounds of Native Americans, a historic hydro-electric plant located in a State Park, campgrounds on the banks of the Deschutes River and ancient petroglyphs.

This varied landscape, gorged by rivers, starts at 853 ft in Maupin, climbs up to 1730 ft on Juniper Flat, rolls along until a fun descent into Tygh Valley, continues along White River to 704 ft at Sherar's Falls and finally, picnic's its way back to Maupin, along the Deschutes River. Rideable either direction, this loop is the best of rural, empty roads.

## Photos

- ☐ *Photos of the route, along with Release forms signed by the photographer, have been sent to OPRD's Bicycle Recreation Specialist directly via email, through Drop box, Flickr or an FTP site.*

## Map Information

**To be filled out AFTER receiving first draft of map from OPRD.** The campgrounds, parks, public restrooms, public water stops and other publicly available amenities to be shown on the Scenic Bikeway map are listed below:

Amenity	Mile Marker from OPRD Map	Management Agency

## Bikeway Goals

### Infrastructure Improvement

The proponents intend to pursue the following activities to enhance the experience of riding bikeway by improving riding conditions and providing amenities and information for bicyclists:

**Infrastructure Improvement Goal:** Design & Install two cycling interpretive kiosks on proposed Sherar's Falls Loop; one in Maupin, one in Tygh Valley.

Action Items/First Steps	Proponent Member Contact/Lead	Timeline
Grant money secured	Susie Miles (River Canyon Country group)	Completed, May 2016
Kiosk design plans are revised & finalized	Susie Miles (Casey Kaiser from Prineville Chamber)	In-progress now, to be completed spring 2017
Building materials, builder finalized	Susie Miles (Casey Kaiser)	Winter 2016/17
Site locations finalized (across from Maupin City Park, new Tygh Valley Park)	Susie Miles, Lynn Ewing, Mike Davis	In-progress now, to be completed Spring 2017
Build, Install kiosks	Lynn Ewing & new City of Maupin public works person, Mike Davis	Spring 2018

### Business Outreach and Services

The proponents intend to pursue the following activities to increase the number and quality of bicycle friendly businesses and build awareness of the Bikeway and its economic benefits.



**Business Outreach and Services Goal:** Help Richmond's Service & Maupin Hardware stock bicycle repair items.

Action Items/First Steps	Proponent Member Contact/Lead	Timeline
Advise Stan at Maupin Hardware & Rod at Richmond's Service on what bicycle repair items to purchase.	Cristie Amaral, Rob Miles, Mike Olson	Happening now, complete Spring 2017
Purchase/get donated items for two stores	Mike Olson, Rob Miles	Spring 2017

**Business Outreach and Services Goal:** Have 3 additional local businesses join Bicycle Friendly Business Program

Action Items/First Steps	Proponent Member Contact/Lead	Timeline
Hold Cycling centered Business After Hours (sponsored by Maupin Area Chamber of Commerce)	Allison Bechtol	Completed May 11, 2016
Follow-up on those who pledged to fill out application	Cristie Amaral	Winter 2016/17
Applicants approved & recognized by Maupin Area Chamber of Commerce	Allison Bechtol, Cristie Amaral	Spring 2017

## Marketing and Communications

The proponents will pursue the following activities to promote the Bikeway, provide opportunities for bicyclists to participate in group rides of the route, ribbon cutting/media events and to provide timely information to the Parks and Recreation Department and Travel Oregon (via RideOregonRide.com) and to assist the local Destination Marketing Organization in marketing the Scenic Bikeway:

**Marketing and Communications Goal:** Promote the bikeway as rideable "Year Round."

Action Items/First Steps	Proponent Member Contact/Lead	Timeline
Plan an end of year/beginning of year ride on December 31 <sup>st</sup> /Jan 1	Rob Miles, Susie Miles, Kevin Foreman	Winter 2017/18
Coordinate Ride with X-Dog Events New Year's Run & Party	Kevin Foreman, Rob Miles	Annually starting: Dec. 31, 2017/Jan. 1, 2018

<b>Action Items/First Steps</b>	<b>Proponent Member Contact/Lead</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
Chamber Web-site Cycling Page Improvement: direct link to RidewithGPS, improved photos, add information on gravel rides	Cristie Amaral	Winter 2017/18
Regularly call/have meetings with RMOs to find out what they need to promote the bikeway	Cristie Amaral	Annually in winter

**Marketing and Communications Goal:** Add local information signs to (once established) existing bikeway.

<b>Action Items/First Steps</b>	<b>Proponent Member Contact/Lead</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
Additional agricultural signs added to private property on Scenic Bikeway, highlighting crops/farming	Susie Miles, Deanna Sudan (Oregon Women for Agriculture)	Winter 2017/18

**Marketing and Communications Goal:** MACC continue to support & grow 3 races occurring on bikeway

<b>Action Items/First Steps</b>	<b>Proponent Member Contact/Lead</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
Deschutes River Valley Time Trial	Susie Miles, Rob Miles, George Thomas	Annually, every April
Race Across Oregon	Susie Miles, Rob Miles, George Thomas	Annually, every July
Ride Row Run	Rob Miles, Cristie Amaral, Kevin Foreman	Annually, every September

## Record of Community Outreach & Public Meetings

During development of the Bikeway Plan, the proponents provided the following opportunities for members of the community to learn about and provide input into plans for the proposed Scenic Bikeway:

<b>Description of Outreach or Opportunity for Public Input</b>	<b>Date</b>
MACC Business After Hours—announced Bikeway is moving forward and plan being written	March 17, 2016
South Wasco Alliance “Town Hall Meeting”—community meeting, musical tables format, people rotated table to table, Scenic Bikeway had a table, shared with community members about Bikeway proposal, community impacts, what a Bikeway is, handed out maps of proposed Bikeway, etc.	April 21, 2016
Maupin City Council Meeting—councilors read draft plan prior to meeting, Chamber answered questions & asked for support on bike racks, kiosk goals, also “supervision” on any installed signs, discussed parking/route anchor point	April 27, 2016
MACC Business After Hours—cycling centered: what is a bikeway? What is Travel Oregon? What impact will it have? Who is involved? How do I become a Bike Friendly Business? (notice in May edition of local newspaper; WamPinRock)	May 11, 2016
Oregon Scenic Bikeway Tourism Studio	June 16, 2016
MACC Goals Work Session	October 7, 2016

- ☐ Check when copies of news articles, calendar events, minutes from meetings, sign in sheets and other announcements are attached or sent in a separate file.

## **Bikeway Signs Location Tables**

### **Sign Location Table (direction A such as clockwise)**

Signs are installed on the right side of the road where cyclists look for and expect signs and approximately 25 feet before an intersection to give the cyclist time to anticipate the turn.

*To create more boxes place cursor in last box and press tab key.*



Road Name	Intersection With	Arrow Direction	Sign Size	Road Jurisdiction (contact info follows)
Bakeoven Rd	Hwy 197	Right	Large (24x36)	ODOT
Hwy 197	Hwy 216	Left	Large (24x36)	ODOT
Hwy 216	Juniper Flat Rd	Right	Large (24x36)	ODOT
Juniper Flat Rd	Hwy 197	Left	Small (18x24)	Wasco County Public Works
Hwy 197	Tygh Valley Rd	Left	Large (24x36)	ODOT
Tygh Valley RD	Hwy 216	Straight	Small (18x24)	Wasco County Public Works
Hwy 216	Deschutes River Access RD	Right	Large (24x36)	ODOT
Deschutes River Access RD	Bakeoven RD	Right	Small (18x24)	BLM

**Sign Location Table**  
**(direction B such as counterclockwise)**

For Bikeways signed in both directions

Road Name	Intersection With	Arrow Direction	Sign Size	Road Jurisdiction (contact info follows)
Bakeoven RD	Deschutes River Access Road	Left	Small (18x24) or large due to congestion?	Wasco County Public Works
Deschutes River Access RD	Hwy 216	Left	Small (18x24)	BLM
Hwy 216	Tygh Valley Market RD	Straight	Small (18x24)	ODOT
Tygh Valley Market RD	Hwy 197	Right	Small (18x24)	Wasco County Public Works

Road Name	Intersection With	Arrow Direction	Sign Size	Road Jurisdiction (contact info follows)
Hwy 197	Juniper Flat RD	Right	Large (24x36)	ODOT
Juniper Flat RD	Hwy 216	Left	Small (18x24)	Wasco County Public Works
Hwy 216	Hwy 197	Right	Small (18x24)	ODOT
Hwy 197	Bakeoven RD	Left	??? (this sign will go on the bridge)	ODOT

☐ Check when responsible road jurisdictions have reviewed and approved the above Bikeway sign locations.

### Sign Contact Information

Contact Name	Road Jurisdiction	Phone Number
Scott Peters	ODOT (Region 4, Dist. 9)	541-296-2215
Arthur Smith	Wasco County Public Works	541-980-0487
Joy Ramirez	City of Maupin Public Works	541-395-2698
Greg Currie	Bureau of Land Management (Prineville Office)	541-416-6700

### Final Bikeway Letters of Support

Final letters of support for each of the following agencies and road jurisdictions were obtained within 6 months prior to submittal of the plan:

(to create more boxes put cursor in last box and press the tab key)

Agency/Jurisdiction Name	Date of Letter(s)
ODOT District 9	12-15-2016
Wasco County Commission	12-7-2016
Maupin City Council/City of Maupin	11-29-2016
BLM: Prineville District Office—Deschutes Field Office	12-12-2016
Jim Anderson: Oregon State Parks—White River Falls State Park	12-14-2016
South Wasco Alliance (parks & recreation district)	11-18-2016
Maupin Area Chamber of Commerce	11-17-2016

Agency/Jurisdiction Name	Date of Letter(s)
The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs	11-21-2016

☐ *Check when final letters of support from each of the agencies and road jurisdictions are attached.*





BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

511 Washington St, Ste. 101 • The Dalles, OR 97058  
p: [541] 506-2520 • f: [541] 506-2551 • [www.co.wasco.or.us](http://www.co.wasco.or.us)

*Pioneering pathways to prosperity.*

December 7, 2016

To Whom It May Concern:

Tourism is becoming an increasingly important part of a healthy Wasco County economy and we welcome cyclists for whom we can offer a unique biking experience. Designation as a scenic bikeway would make this a destination for cyclists not only in our region but throughout the country.

The proposed 33-mile loop will take riders through river canyons descending to waterfalls, through farmlands and along riverbanks. Along the way, cyclists will enjoy stunning views of Mt. Hood, a wide array of High Desert flora and fauna. With 300 days of sunshine, there are many opportunities to enjoy all that makes North Central Oregon unique. In addition, the loop provides a peek into history as the route passes by century-old farms, former mill towns, ancient Native American grounds and petroglyphs. With a climb that starts at 853 feet and rises to 1730 feet followed by a pleasant descent into Tygh Valley and then winding along the White River past Sherar's Falls back to Maupin, this loop – rideable in either direction – offers a beautiful and unique experience worthy of designation as a scenic bikeway.

Wasco County enthusiastically supports the Sherar's Falls Scenic Bikeway application for designation as a National Scenic Bikeway.

Sincerely,

  
Rod Runyon, Commission Chair

  
Scott Hege, County Commissioner

  
Steve Kramer, County Commissioner



## South Wasco Alliance

November 18, 2016

Oregon Parks & Recreation Department  
Alex Phillips  
725 Summer Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Oregon Scenic Bikeway Committee:

On behalf of our 60 members, the South Wasco Alliance would like to express their support as a proponent for the Sherar's Falls Scenic Bikeway application. It is with great privilege that we submit our application for an Oregon Scenic Bikeway. We believe the Sherar's Falls loop is a natural fit into the program for several reasons:

- It is ride-able year-round. The location of Sherar's Falls Loop in Mt. Hood's east-side rain shadow and low elevation, make it accessible 12 months of the year.
- The loop is already popular with cyclists. Recreation cyclists and racers competing in races like the Deschutes River Valley Time Trial, all love this loop!
- There are no other Scenic Bikeways in our immediate area or county.
- This application is perfectly in-line with the goals of River Canyon Country, a Travel Oregon affiliated group. Cycling promotion is their top goal!

One of the goals of the SWA is to promote economic development and we think this designation will bring more business to our gorgeous area. We believe in making our area a sustainable destination through promotion of year-round activities like cycling. We appreciate our supporters of this application: COVA, Madras-Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce, The Dalles Chamber of Commerce and especially our Wasco County Commissioners. We also appreciate the assistance and expertise from cyclists and Deschutes patrons Mike Olson, of Olson's Bicycles in Forest Grove, and George Thomas, Race Director of Race Across Oregon & Race Across America consultant.

Thank you for your consideration and support for the Sherar's Falls Scenic Bikeway Application.

Sincerely,

*William C. Aarnio*

William Aarnio  
Co-Communications Officer  
South Wasco Alliance



# Oregon

## Parks and Recreation Department

Deschutes River State Recreation Area

89600 Biggs-Rufus Hwy

Wasco, OR 97065-3001

(541) 739-2322

Fax: (541) 739-2221



Nature  
HISTORY  
Discovery

Dec. 14, 2016

Dear Susie Miles:

Oregon State Parks and Recreation Department supports your Sherar's Fall Scenic Bikeway plan. White River Falls State Park is located along the Sherar's Falls Scenic Bikeway Route. White River Falls State Park will have a new parking area and porta-potty available starting in 2017 for cyclists during the winter months (Nov.-March).  
Good Luck with your plan submission.

Respectfully,

Jim W. Anderson

Jim W. Anderson  
Park Manager  
Deschutes MU





# Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

## Department of Transportation

Scott Peters

District 9 Operations Coordinator

3313 Bret Clodfelter Way

The Dalles, OR, 97058

Phone: (541)296-2215

Fax: (541) 296-1671

December 15, 2016

Alex Phillips

Oregon Parks & Recreation Department

725 Summer Street NE, Suite C

Salem, OR 97301

Dear Ms. Phillips,

The Oregon Department of Transportation; District 9 would like to express our support for the Sherar's Falls Loop Scenic Bikeway application and designation. Oregon's transportation system supports people, places and the economy. Since this bikeway would have economic benefits for tourism, as well as being a great addition to Oregon's Scenic Bikeway Program it's a win for all 3. This is also a great way for people to get out and experience how effective and reliable our transportation system can be partnered with a fantastic way to promote biking in and around South Wasco County.

The Sherar's Falls Loop is a unique opportunity to view the river and surrounding natural beauty around the Maupin and Tygh Valley communities. The proposed route offers fantastic views of the Deschutes River, Sherar's Falls, White River, the Tygh Valley and Mount Hood. Abundant wildlife such as whitetail deer, blue herons, osprey, geese, and river otters are plentiful on this scenic loop. It highlights some of the best cycling in North Central Oregon and we are proud to be a part of the effort to give it the recognition it deserves.

Sincerely,

Scott Peters

District 9 Operations Coordinator

cc: Pat Cimmiyotti, District 9 Manager



Lynn Ewing  
Mayor

## CITY OF MAUPIN

P.O. Box 308  
408 Deschutes Avenue  
Maupin, OR 97037  
Tel: 541-395-2811  
Cell: 541-993-5956  
Fax: 541-395-2499  
E-mail: [maupinmayor@gmail.com](mailto:maupinmayor@gmail.com)

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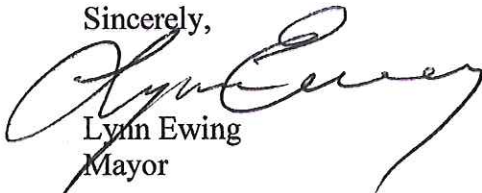
November 29, 2016

Alex Phillips  
Oregon Parks & Recreation Department  
725 Summer St. NE, Suite C  
Salem, OR 97301

The City of Maupin is very happy to support the Sherar's Falls Loop Scenic Bikeway application and designation. The bikeway will have economic implications for our community and be a great addition to Oregon's Scenic Bikeway Program. We have several local businesses who are designated as Bike Friendly and several cycling events are hosted here annually, including some which have used the proposed Sherar's Falls Loop.

We recognize the Sherar's Falls Loop as being a unique opportunity to share the natural beauty of our community and surrounding area. The proposed route offers gorgeous views of the Deschutes River, Sherar's Falls, White River, Tygh Valley, and Mount Hood. Wildlife such as whitetail deer, blue heron, osprey, geese, hawks, and eagles are often viewed along the route. The scenery is ever-changing with the seasons and provides a great opportunity to share the beauties of our little corner of Oregon. Maupin is very happy to be a part of this effort, including providing a parking area that makes for a natural starting point for the loop near our City Park on the Deschutes River.

Sincerely,



Lynn Ewing  
Mayor



November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Alexandra Phillips, Bicycle Recreation Specialist  
Oregon Parks and Recreation Department  
725 Summer Street NE Suite C  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Alex,

The Maupin Area Chamber of Commerce promotes bicycling as a fun and healthy activity, advocate for cycling safety, and organize and conduct rides through Race Across Oregon and Imperial River Company. We have multiple Bicycle Friendly Businesses along the route with more to come.

We support the proposed Sherars Falls Scenic Bikeway and have been and will continue to be an advocate for approval. Increased bicycle tourism in Central Oregon will bring low-impact usage to our area but, most importantly to the Chamber, will increase the number and visibility of bikes on our roads, while positioning bicycles and riders in an even more favorable light among local residents and businesses. Not to mention, the positive economic impact it will have on our small local communities.

The Maupin Area Chamber of Commerce is very excited about this scenic bikeway. Cyclist from all walks of life will have the opportunity to ride along our beautiful Lower Deschutes River, the prize jewel of our area. We look forward to working with your department, Travel Oregon, Ride Oregon Ride, Ride with GPS, and local agencies to support the approval and ongoing development of the Sherars Falls Scenic Bikeway.

Sincerely,

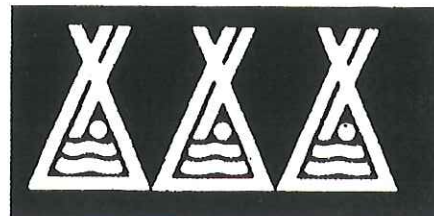
Allison Bechtol

President

Maupin Area Chamber of Commerce



# THE CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF WARM SPRINGS RESERVATION OF OREGON



**DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**  
**4223 HOLLIDAY STREET**  
**P.O. BOX C**  
**WARM SPRINGS, OREGON 97761**  
**(541) 553-2001**  
**(541) 553-1994 FAX**

November 21, 2016

Susie Miles  
Imperial River Company  
PO Box 130  
Maupin, Oregon 97037

Dear Susie;

I am writing to express the support of The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs for the proposed Sherar's Falls Scenic Bikeway. The proposed bikeway will cross tribally-owned land at Sherar's Falls and will bring additional tourists to the area creating an economic benefit for the local economy of Maupin. The Tribe feels the bikeway will provide an opportunity for more people to enjoy the scenic beauty of the area without adversely impacting any natural resources or creating any management problems.

We look forward to working with the other partners in bringing this idea to reality.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Cunningham", written over a horizontal line.

Brian Cunningham,  
Tribal Representative



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Prineville District Office

3050 NE 3<sup>rd</sup> Street

Prineville, Oregon 97754

<http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/prineville>



In Reply Refer To:  
8357 (ORP060)

Alexandra Phillips, Bicycle Recreation Coordinator  
Oregon Parks and Recreation Department  
725 Summer Street NE, Suite C  
Salem, OR 97301

postmarked 12/12/16  
(no date on letter)  
SRM

Dear Oregon State Scenic Bikeway Committee:

The BLM Prineville District is pleased to provide this letter of support for the Sherars Falls State Scenic Bikeway Application and designation. This community effort of Maupin Chamber of Commerce will provide economic benefits to Maupin and other local communities through promotion of bicycle tourism. We also believe it will provide health and quality of life benefits for the community.

The Lower Deschutes River Road provides significant recreation opportunities and outstanding scenery. The bikeway would pass through approximately 4.5 miles of BLM administered lands within the Lower Deschutes Wild and Scenic River. The designation and use of the road corridor for bicycling provides an excellent opportunity for visitors to enjoy the Lower Deschutes Wild and Scenic River, and visit one of many BLM managed recreation sites. We believe the combination of the river canyon and the larger loop through Tygh Valley provides some of the best scenery and bicycling opportunities to be found anywhere.

We look forward to community partnerships and actions to implement the bikeway, and create long-term, meaningful connections between the community and their public lands.

Sincerely,

Jeff Kitchens

Field Manager, Deschutes Field Office